

## REPOINT EXTERNAL BRICKWORK LOCALLY

Locations: Front, Rear and Part Side Elevations

### Methodology:

WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT BY A SPECIALISED BRICK LAYER:

Prepare:

- Clean and remove all dust.
  - Pointing and building mortar should be finished the same day or the following day in cooler periods. Lime mortar requires longer curing times than cement mortar.
  - Carefully rake out existing mortar with mortar rake, raking back by 15 - 20mm with hand tools, fully preserving the natural auris of the historic brick
  - Gently brush out any loose material and then dampen each of the joints, making sure plenty of time for the water to soak in is allowed for. Mortars should be as stiff as possible which improves compaction and reduces smearing and shrinkage.
  - Using a pointing trowel that is slightly smaller than the joint width required, fill the joint completely and pack the mortar tightly all the way to the back.
  - After the mortar has had time to setup and is thumbprint hard, use a pointing trowel or putty knife to lightly scrape the joint back to almost flush with the surrounding mortar.
- Other requirements: mortar to be carefully 'tamped' into the joint with a pointing iron and not trowelled which leaves the faces smeared. After initial setting and before fully dry, revisit area of pointing and carefully 'beat back' with a stiff bristle 'churn brush' until the mortar is recessed by approx. 1mm behind face of adjacent masonry. do not smear adjacent masonry.





#### Mortar:

- Mortar: pre-bagged natural hydraulic lime (NHL 3.5) : sand, Mix: 1 : 2.5 - 3 (NHL : Sand) by volume.
- Sand source/type: good quality, well-graded washed, sharp coarse sand (particle size 3.35mm to 0.075mm) or other to architects' approval
- Joints: Finish mortar joints flush, approx. 1mm behind face of stonework.

#### Pointing with Tools/Irons

- Press mortar well into joints using pointing tools/irons that fit into the joints, so they are fully filled.
- Ensure that no mortar encroaches/smears upon the face of the masonry. Use suitable temporary adhesive tape on each side of joints where necessary.
- Finish joints neatly as specified generally to full face of stonework. After initial setting and before fully dry, revisit area of pointing and carefully 'beat back' with a stiff bristle 'churn brush' until the mortar is recessed by approx. 1mm behind face of adjacent stones.

Adverse weather & protection of mortars.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES re-point in natural hydraulic lime: sand mortars when the air temperature is at or below 5°C and falling or below 3°C and rising. Where it is anticipated that the temperature in the first few days might fall to 5°C, or lower, the structure should be protected with damp hessian to preserve the moisture and with sufficient cover, using bubble wrap or insulating material, to protect the structure itself and the mortar against frost.

FROST RESISTANT ADDITIVES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AS THEY CONTAIN SALTS WHICH WILL AFFECT THE MORTAR.